deplete the Ozone Layer, India intends to phase out such substances in accordance with provisions of the Protocol. A country Programme has been prepared to phase out ozone depleting substances in India, will be determined by the availability of financial resources and transfer of technology from the Multilateral Fund of the Protocol.

Closing Down a Temple in Hartfordshire

6620. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several thousand Hindus took a protest march against the decision to close down a temple in Hartfordshire donated by the former Beatle George Harrison in 1973 as appeared in the newspapers of 18th March, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter relates to the functioning of the Bhakti Vedanta Manor as a Hindu temple and its request to the local District Council for an access route to the Temple which would enable devotees to visit the Temple without disturbance to the residents of the area. It also relates to an enforcement order served on the Temple by the local District Council which took effect on March 16, 1994 under which the Bhakti Vedanta Manor would cease to function as a temple. Efforts to reach an amicable settlement in the matter are continuing. The Indian High Commission in London has been maintaining informal contacts with the various parties concerned to promote a satisfactory outcome of these efforts.

Realisation of Compensation Amount from Bangladesh Government

6621. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has realised the amount of compensation or part of it from the government of Bangladesh in lieu of compensation paid to Indian citizens migrated from Bangladesh before 1971; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government took up with the Government of Bangladesh the question of compensation for properties belonging to Indian citizens who migrated from the erstwhile East Pakistan before 1971. Our concerns about an expeditious resolution of this issue were also conveyed to the Bangladesh authorities on several occasions. The position taken by the Government of Bangladesh is that the settlement of the question of compensation for Indian nationals would have to await the final settlement of assets and liabilities between Bangladesh and Pakistan.

Moves to Forge an Asian Alliance

6622. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the context of NATO having invited their former Warsaw pact adversaries to become partners in the Western Military alliance, any moves have been made between Government of India and other Asian Nations such as Chine, to forge an Asian alliance or other limited military pact; and

(b) if so, the details of moves so far made and at what level the matter stands

at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir. Government of India have made no such moves vis-a-vis China or any other Asian country. Nor has China or any other Asian nation done so with us. As the Hon'ble Member is aware, India does not believe in joining military alliances or pacts.

(b) Does not arise.

Arrangements for Haj Pilgrims

6623. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Huj Pilgrims go by air and by ship from India every year;

(b) if so, the arrangements made along with the number and the fares charged during the last three years;

(c) the precise arrangements for Haj Pilgrims made this year and the progress so far, alongwith the fares charged and the facilities offered; and

(d) the summary of the complaints/ suggestions received from individuals/ assiciations in this regad and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Approximately 25,000 pilgrims proceed for Haj under the arrangements made by the Central Haj Committee and around 15,000 pilgrims go additionally on their own.

(c) and (d) Arrangements made for Haj pilgrims going under Central Haj Committee arrangements include hiring of accommodation on their behalf in Makkah and Madinah, chartering aircraft/ship for carriage of pilgrims, despatch of Medical Team together with medicines and medical supplies for the benefit of pilgrims, additional Administrative staff for the assistance of Haj Pilgrims, despatch of Khuddam-ul-Hujjaj (Haj volunteers) from various States, special arrangements for pre-departure Health/Immigration formalities, exemption from Airport Tax and release of Foreign Exchange.

Number of pilgrims having performed the Haj during the last 3 years as well as this year is given in table below together with the fare charged to the pilgrims:

year	Pilgrims by sea	Pilgrims by Air	Total No. of Pilgrims
1991	4508	18790	23298
1992	4723	19486	24209
1993	4562	20630	25192
1994	4700	20300	25000 (Expected)

FARE CHARGED (In Rupees)

Year	By Air	By Sea		
		Bunk Class Cat. I	Ist Class Cat. II.	Ist Class Cat. III
1991	10000	3000	8750	8500 8250
1992	10500	3750	8750	8500 8250
1993	11000	3750	8750	8500 8250
1994	12000	3750	8750	8500 8250

(d) There have been complaints about the quality of on board services and inadequate baggage capacity on Haj flights, inadequate number of doctors/ paramedics in the Haj Medical Mission and pilgrims' accommodation arranged at distant places.

An exercise is conducted after Haj every year to review the arrangements/ facilities in consultation with representatives of Central and State Haj Committees with a view to drawing lessons for the future.

Suggestions made by these representatives and others have been taken care of by emphasising on the need to charter by Air India aeroplanes with services of acceptable international standars, hiring accommodation at more